

## Message Text

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61/47

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3797

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 3683

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y-SUBJECT LINE ADDED

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR GR TU US

SUBJ: GREEK PRESS REPORTING ON EXPECTED U.S.-GREEK

AGREEMENT

REF: ATHENS 3625

1. ALL PAPERS APR 15 REPORT THAT A US-GREEK "FRAMEWORK" AGREEMENT COVERING BOTH THE STATUS OF US BASES IN GREECE AND US MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR GREECE WILL BE INITIALLED IN WASHINGTON LATER TODAY. THE OVERALL TONE OF THE PRESS REPORTING IS POSITIVE AND REFLECTS GENERAL SATISFACTION THAT, TO A SIGNIFICANT DEGREE, GREEK "DEMANDS" HAVE BEEN MET. THERE IS STILL SOME UNCERTAINTY AND/OR LACK OF CONSENSUS IN THE SPECULATION ABOUT THE SPECIFIC NATURE OF THE US "ASSURANCES" WHICH WILL BE GIVEN TO GREECE CONCERNING ITS SECURITY IN THE AEGEAN. HOWEVER, THE GENERAL ASSUMPTION (WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXCEPTION OF THE SISTER OPPOSITION PAPERS TO VIMA AND TA NEA) IS THAT US WILL CERTAINLY BE FORTHCOMING IN SOME SUBSTANTIAL MANNER ON THIS MATTER.

2. SOME REPRESENTATIVE HEADLINES GIVE THE FLAVOR OF THE REPORTS WHICH THEY INTRODUCE. KATHIMERINI (PRO-GOVT) "TODAYS AGREEMENT WILL BE STARTING POINT OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AS TO CYPRUS, THE AEGEAN AND RELATIONS WITH THE USA"; TO VIMA ( LIBERAL, OPPOSITION) "BITSIOS WILL RECEIVE TODAY IN WASHINGTON AN EXPRESSION OF 'INTEREST' -- BUT NO GUARANTEES -- ON THE AEGEAN AND CYPRUS"; APOYEVMATINI (CONSERVATIVE, PRO-GOVERNMENT) "THERE WILL BE EXTRA AID IN ADDITION TO THE 800 (SIC) MILLION DOLLARS"; ELEFTHEROTYPIA (LEFT OF CENTER, ANTI-US) "KISSINGER: WE WILL REMAIN IN GREECE -- US MILITARY PRESENCE PERPETUATED HERE". TA NEA (LIBERAL, OPPOSITION) "THEY REFUSED US THE GUARANTEES A BUT... THEY OFFER 'INTEREST'".

3. IN AFTERNOON PRESS ONE OR TWO ITEMS DIVERGED SOMEWHAT FROM THE MAIN LINE COVERAGE. APOYEVMATINI, FOR INSTANCE, ASSERTED THAT THE US WILL PROVIDE "EXTRA ECONOMIC AID," WHICH IS NOT CURRENTLY ENVISAGED BY THE DRAFT AGREEMENT, AND THAT US WILL AS WELL USE ITS GOOD OFFICES WITH VARIOUS (INTERNATIONAL) ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS SO THAT GREECE WILL BE PROVIDED WITH CREDITS WHICH MAY BE USED FOR PURPOSES WHICH THE GOG ITSELF WILL JUDGE NECESSARY. VRADYNI (CONSERVATIVE, PRO-GOVT) ASSERTED IN A STORY FILED FROM WASHINGTON BY ITS CORRESPONDENT THAT THE US WILL  
(A) EXPLICITLY UNDERTAKE THE OBLIGATION OF IMMEDIATE INTERVENTION IN CASE OF A CONFLICT IN THE AEGEAN AND  
(B) GUARANTEE THAT US BASES IN TURKEY WILL NEVER BE USED IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCE AGAINST GREECE.  
STEARNS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**To:** STATE INFO ANKARA  
NICOSIA  
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